

# Health News Release

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## State disciplines health care providers

**OLYMPIA** -- The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Division works with boards, commissions, and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 80 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency website. Click on "Look up a health care provider license" in the "How Do I?" section of the Department of Health website (doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are encouraged to call and report their complaint.

## **Asotin County**

In April 2015 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Lynn Lee Jackson** (NC60168339) with unprofessional conduct. In 2014 Jackson was convicted of second-degree attempted rape of a child and fourth-degree assault.

#### **Clallam County**

In April 2015 the Dental Commission amended a statement of charges against dentist **Runar Dean Johnson** (DE00003577) to remove some specific allegations involving patient treatment.

In April 2015 the Nursing Commission entered an agreement with registered nurse **Heather L. Harsh** (RN00131334) reinstating her credential that was suspended in 2004 after she didn't fully cooperate with an inquiry into allegations involving withdrawal of more medication than she documented administering.

#### **Clark County**

In April 2015 the Nursing Commission reinstated the registered nurse credential of **Leona M. Smith** (RN00177534). Her license was suspended in 2013 after her Oregon license was revoked

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because she photographed and passed on a photo of a patient's bare buttocks without the patient's knowledge or consent.

## **King County**

In April 2015 the secretary of health conditionally granted medical assistant-phlebotomist and certified nursing assistant credentials to **Alex Peter Karre** (PC60519181, NC60519087) who must participate in a substance abuse monitoring program. Karre was convicted of four felonies, 10 gross misdemeanors, and one misdemeanor between 2002 and 2009.

In April 2015 the Dental Commission agreed to reinstate the dentist credential of **Kin Cheong So** (DE00005103). His license was suspended in 2014 because of inadequate sterilization and infection control in his office. The commission required So to retain an approved dental cleaning service before his license would be reinstated. His license will be monitored for at least three years. So must pay the commission \$4,000, complete continuing education in infection control, and pass a jurisprudence examination.

In April 2015 the Nursing Commission entered an agreement with registered nurse **Mia Christine Uy** (RN60026041) that reprimands her, places her license on probation for at least two years, and requires her to complete continuing education in ethics. Uy didn't comply with conditions requiring her to report her employment in the health care field to the commission and to notify her employer to submit performance reports on her disciplinary status.

In April 2015 the Nursing Commission entered an agreement with registered nurse **Kelly D. Schwartz** (RN00148083) that requires her to participate in a substance abuse monitoring program. Schwartz didn't comply with a previous substance abuse monitoring contract.

In April 2015 the Nursing Commission entered an agreement with registered nurse and licensed practical nurse **Habib Hariri** (RN60242719, LP00052311) that places him on probation for at least two years. Hariri must complete continuing education in ethics and nursing law. He sometimes slept while on duty at a skilled nursing facility.

# **Pierce County**

In April 2015 the Massage Program charged massage practitioner **Joan M. Shephard** (MA00011038) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly didn't fulfill continuing education requirements.

In April 2015 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Norma G. Ballard** (NC10014498) with unprofessional conduct. Charges say Ballard worked at a facility for dementia patients. When an exit door alarm went off, Ballard allegedly secured the door, but didn't do a head count of patients. Charges say a patient left the facility and went to a neighboring house, and someone at that house called 9-1-1.

In April 2015 the Unlicensed Practice Program notified **Xiaohong Chen** of its intent to issue a cease-and-desist order. Charges say Chen has no massage practitioner license, but her workplace advertised massages.

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## **Snohomish County**

In April 2015 the Hearing and Speech Board charged hearing aid fitter and dispenser **Allan L. Crane** (HA00000739) with unprofessional conduct. Crane allegedly sold hearing aids to a client for \$3,590, but the client found the hearing aids uncomfortable. He allegedly told the client he would adjust them and return them to her, but didn't. The client asked for a refund. Crane allegedly delivered hearing aids that appeared to be dirty and used; the client refused them and again asked for a refund. Crane allegedly provided neither suitable hearing aids nor a refund. The client won a small claims court judgment of \$3,590 from Crane. Charges say Crane hasn't fully responded to a Department of Health investigator's inquiries.

In April 2015 the Nursing Commission entered an agreement with registered nurse **Jennifer Danielle Hardman** (RN60293858) that requires her to complete a professional boundaries course. Hardman had inappropriate relationships with two male patients at the facility where she worked. She gave them her phone number, sent a nude picture of herself, invited one to accompany her on a night out, and gave one of them money.

In April 2015 the Nursing Commission ended probation for registered nurse **Damon M. Pope** (RN00141422).

In April 2015 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Ann-Lisa Delight Gubbels** (RN60019565) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly admitted diverting narcotics for her own use from the hospital where she worked.

## **Spokane County**

In April 2015 the Chemical Dependency Professional and Social Worker programs charged chemical dependency professional and independent clinical social worker associate **Coy Robert Osgood** (CP60065645, SC60229390) with unprofessional conduct. Charges say Osgood blurred therapeutic and personal relationship boundaries with a client by exchanging hugs, gifts, giving her his personal phone number, and allowing the mutual use of nicknames. Osgood allegedly didn't inform the client of other professionals who could have treated her, and increased her fees without telling her. He also allegedly didn't refer the client to another professional when she expressed feelings of love toward him, and she told Osgood she was having sexual fantasies about the two of them.

# **Thurston County**

In May 2015 the Medical Assistant Program entered an agreement with medical assistant-phlebotomist **Scott L. Hollis** (PC60358735) that places his certification on probation for at least two years. Hollis must pay a \$1,000 fine. While working as a lab manager, Hollis ordered lab work on himself and others without authorization from a health care provider.

In April 2015 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Antonia Buenaventura** (NA00191884) with unprofessional conduct. Charges say Buenaventura worked

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at an adult family home where she provided care for an 87-year-old patient. Buenaventura allegedly didn't properly prevent the development of pressure sores, correctly treat them once discovered, or intervene to prevent the patient's deterioration. The patient died. Charges say the patient's death certificate lists the cause of death as infected ulcers on the skin.

## **Whatcom County**

In April 2015 the Unlicensed Practice Program notified **Jie Huang** of its intent to issue a cease-and-desist order. Charges say Huang doesn't have a massage practitioner license, but operated a business that performed massages.

#### **Out of State**

**California:** In April 2015 the Unlicensed Practice Program notified **Wanjun Min** of its intent to issue a cease-and-desist order. Min allegedly performed massage without a license.

**California:** In April 2015 the Nursing Commission ended probation for registered nurse **Jon Alan Walter** (RN00168014).

**Nevada:** In April 2015 the Dental Commission amended a statement of charges against dentist **Benjamin Timothy Bentley-Dyches** (DE60195272) to add a reference to the specific number of patients for whom records are allegedly missing.

**Note to Editors:** Health care providers charged with unprofessional conduct have 20 days to respond to the Department of Health in writing. The case then enters the settlement process. If no disciplinary agreement can be reached, the case will go to a hearing.

The <u>Department of Health website</u> (doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, <u>find us on Facebook</u> and <u>follow us on Twitter</u>.

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